No 113. CLIX.

The GUARDIAN.

Præsens vel imo tollere de gradu
Mortale corpus, vel superbos
Vertere funeribus triumphos. Hor.

Saturday, September 12. 1713.

SIR,

'HAVING read over your Paper of '*Tuesday* last, in which you recom-'mend the Pursuits of Wisdom and 'Knowledge to those of the Fair Sex, 'who have much Time lying upon their Hands, 'and among other Motives make Use of this, 'That several Women, thus accomplished, have 'raised themselves by it to considerable Posts of 'Honour and Fortune, I shall beg leave to give 'you an Instance of this Kind, which many now 'living can testify the Truth of, and which I can 'assure you is Matter of Fact.

'About twelve Years ago I was familiary ac-'quainted with a Gentleman, who was in a Post 'that brought him a yearly Revenue, sufficient to 'live very handsomly upon. He had a Wife, and 'no Child but a Daughter, whom he bred up, as I 'thought, too high for one that could expect no 'other Fortune than such a one as her Father could 'raise out of the Income of his Place; which as 'they managed it was scarce sufficient for their or-'dinary Expences. Miss *Betty* had always the best 'Sort of Cloaths, and was hardly allowed to keep 'Company but with those above her Rank, so that 'it was no Wonder she grew proud and haughty 'towards those she look'd upon as her Inferiors. 'There liv'd by them a Barber who had a Daugh-'ter about Miss's Age, that could speak *French*, 'had read several Books at her leisure Hours, and 'was a perfect Mistress of her Needle and in all 'Kinds of Female Manufacture. She was at the same 'time a pretty, modest, witty Girl. She was hi-'red to come to Miss an Hour or two every Day, 'to talk *French* with her and teach her to Work, 'but Miss always treated her with great Contempt; 'and when *Molly* gave her any Advice, rejected it 'with Scorn.

'About the same time several young Fellows 'made their Addresses to Miss *Betty*, who had in-'deed a great deal of Wit and Beauty, had they not 'been infected with so much Vanity and Self-con-'ceit. Among the rest was a plain sober young 'Man, who lov'd her almost to Distraction. His 'Passion was the common Talk of the Neighbour-'hood, who used to be often discoursing of Mr. '*T*— 's Angel, for that was the Name he always 'gave her in ordinary Conversation. As his Cir-'cumstances were very indifferent, he being a young-'er Brother, Mrs. *Betty* rejected him with Dis-'dain. Insomuch that the young Man, as is usual 'among those who are crossed in Love, put him-'self aboard the Fleet, with a Resolution to seek 'his Fortune, and forget his Mistress. This was 'very happy for him, for in a very few Years, be-'ing concerned in several Captures, he brought 'home with him an Estate of about twelve thou-'sand Pounds.

'Mean while Days and Years went on. Miss 'liv'd high and learnt but little, most of her time 'being employed in reading Plays and practising to 'dance, in which she arrived at great Perfection. When 'of a sudden, at a Change of Ministry, her Father 'lost his Place, and was forced to leave *London*, 'where he could no longer live upon the Foot he 'had formerly done. Not many Years after I was 'told the poor Gentleman was dead, and had left 'his Widow and Daughter in a very desolate Con-'dition, but I could not learn where to find them, 'tho' I made what Inquiry I could; and I must 'own, I immediately suspected their Pride would

'not

(Price Two Pence.)